

Shevardnadze due in Mideast

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze will begin a five-state tour of the Middle East this week aimed at achieving a "tangible breakthrough" in settling the Arab-Israeli conflict, an official said. Vadim Perfiliev, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, told a government news briefing that Shevardnadze will visit Syria on Feb. 17-19; Jordan Feb. 19; Egypt Feb. 20-22; Iraq Feb. 23-25 and Iran Feb. 25-27. Shevardnadze's visit is evidence of an interesting Soviet role in the Middle East. The last time a Soviet foreign minister visited Egypt was in 1975, when Andrei Gromyko held the post. According to Perfiliev, Shevardnadze's trip "will take place in the framework of the Soviet Union's consistent efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East, taking into account the interests of all people involved. We seek to attain a tangible breakthrough in settling this old conflict." In response to a reporter's question, Perfiliev said he did not know whether Shevardnadze would be meeting during his trip with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, or with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جordan ناشر يومية سوداء تصدر باللغة العربية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الرأي

Israeli group claims arson

TEL AVIV (AP) — An underground group named after ancient Jewish assassins claimed responsibility for its first arson attack and said it would "kill all those who will contact the PLO," a newspaper reported Sunday. The attack was Saturday at the Tel Aviv apartment of police officer Mina Tzamah, whose survey last week showed that over half of the Israelis support talks with the PLO. The door of Tzamah's apartment was damaged but nobody was injured, police said. The group said the attack was in retaliation for "false reports about the readiness of Israeli public to talk with the PLO... we will reach everybody. We will not hesitate to kill all those who would contact the PLO." An unidentified caller claimed responsibility in a series of phone calls to the mass-circulation Israeli daily *Yediot Ahronot*. The caller spoke for a previously unknown group calling itself "Sons of Light of the Sicilian Fraction," after Jewish assassins of the 1st century A.D. who carried daggers — sick in Latin — to murder pro-Roman collaborators. A public opinion poll conducted by Tzamah's Dahaf Institute and published in *Yediot* Friday showed that 53 per cent of the Israelis questioned supported peace talks with the PLO.

Volume 14 Number 4011

AMMAN TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1989, RAJAB 7, 1409

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King to meet world leaders in Tokyo to discuss Middle East

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that he would hold talks on the Middle East problem in Tokyo with the leaders of friendly countries later this month when he will attend the funeral of the late Emperor Hirohito of Japan.

In an interview with Japanese television and a group of Japanese journalists, the King said he was optimistic about new U.S. President George Bush and his approach to the Middle East. The King said his talks with Bush in Tokyo would deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict in light of the ongoing dialogue between the U.S. and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The King said the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories was the natural outcome of Israel's occupation of Arab lands and called for international efforts to end the occupation so that a just and lasting settlement could be found for the Middle East conflict and the Palestinian problem in all its aspects.

The King said he was optimistic over the current favourable atmosphere in superpower relations and world politics which helped solve the conflicts in Kampuchea, Namibia and Afghanistan, ended the Gulf war and halted the global nuclear arms race. Such a favourable atmosphere was the case in Iran and Iraq," he said, referring to the

its positive impact on efforts to resolve the Middle East problem.

The King said he had held extensive talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Moscow's role in Middle East peace efforts and that the issue would be discussed with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who is due to arrive in Amman Feb. 19.

"I believe their attitude towards the problem is very positive and constructive and we will be able to continue... in the visit of the foreign minister to him on what has happened so far and to exchange views," the King said.

The King said attention should now be focused on coordinating superpower endeavours, together with efforts exerted by United Nations Security Council members and the European Community, towards convening an international peace conference on the Middle East. "I am optimistic... that sometime soon there will be a dialogue among the five permanent U.N. Security Council members as was the case in Iran and Iraq," he said, referring to the

Security Council's role in coding the Gulf war.

The King said Israeli leaders should change their opposition to involving the PLO in peace talks.

On Jordanian-Palestinian relations, the King said: "We believe that relations between Jordan and Palestine will be quite special and they are. However, we believe that to go into details at this time is premature."

The King said he expected that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would be invited to the next Arab summit meeting. "The Arab summit has to be held and Egypt invited to attend," he said. "We are pushing for it to take place as soon as possible."

He said the summit should tackle the Palestinian problem, the Lebanese civil war and efforts to find permanent peace between Iran and Iraq.

The King said the planned economic alliance among Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen "is not directed against any country" but is solely for increasing economic cooperation.

The King described Jordanian-Japanese relations as unique and based on mutual respect. He expressed great admiration and respect for the late emperor and his sublime humanitarian ideals. The King wished Emperor Akihito to succeed in leading his country towards further progress and prosperity.

1 killed, 5 injured amid fears of new Jewish terror group

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian was killed and two other people were wounded Monday in an explosion caused by a "suspicious object" in the occupied West Bank, the Israeli army said.

Also Monday, two Palestinian teenagers were shot by Israeli troops during stone-throwing protests in the occupied Gaza Strip, a military spokesman said.

In occupied Jerusalem, two members of parliament said recent attacks by Jewish settlers on Palestinians in the West Bank were the work of a "very efficient and well armed" settler militia.

The army clamped a curfew on Qabatiya village after an unidentified man blew himself up "playing with a suspicious object," the military spokesman said. Two other villagers were hurt, the spokesman said.

"A preliminary report indicates they found a suspicious object, played with it and it exploded," a military statement said.

Parliamentarians Yossi Sarid and Dedi Zucker appealed to the Israeli government Sunday to dis-

mantle what they said was a 100-member militia formed by settlers to counter protests in the 14-month-long Palestinian uprising.

It was not immediately clear whether the army and the Arab reporter were describing the same incident. Tayasir and Qabatiya are 16 kilometres away from each other.

At least six children have been reported wounded in similar circumstances in the past.

Last month, officials said some of the earlier injuries were caused by flares emitted by fighter jets in order to deflect heat-seeking missiles.

A very few of the flares do not explode in the air but fall to earth, he said.

In Gaza's Rafah refugee camp, two 14-year-old teenagers were shot in the head by troops and transferred to Israeli hospitals in critical condition, a military spokeswoman said.

Settlers met the mayor of the

(Continued on page 3)

LAST-MINUTE NEWS

Sheikh Shakbout laid to rest

AL 'AIN (R) — The former ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Shakbout Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, was buried Monday in Al 'Ain. The UAE news agency WAM said his brother, UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, led prayers at the funeral.

Abdul Meguid visits Riyadh

RIYADH (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid arrived in Saudi Arabia Monday for a two-day visit to reassess the strong ties between the two countries, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. SPA quoted him as saying his visit would reaffirm the strong and sound ties binding the two countries. Abdul Meguid was carrying a message to King Fahd from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and will hold talks with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

Heavy frost damages Israeli crops

TEL AVIV (R) — Snow and sub-zero temperatures caused severe damage to Israel's crops last week, the deputy director general of the Agriculture Ministry, I. Ben David, said Monday. He estimated the damage at \$13 million in lost investments. The figure did not loss of income to farmers from sales or damage to vineyards, groves and orchards. Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz told the cabinet Sunday that frost had caused about \$300 million in long-term damage to trees, reduced yields next season and destruction of greenhouses.

C. American summit opens

TESORO BEACH, El Salvador (AP) — President Jose Napoleon Duarte inaugurated a long-postponed Central American summit meeting Monday, saying the leaders were optimistic about bringing peace and progress to the turbulent region. After a brief opening statement, Duarte joined presidents Jose Azcuna of Honduras, Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, Oscar Arias of Costa Rica and Vinicio Cerezo of Guatemala in a closed door meeting.

PLO: No end to struggle without guarantees

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has said that without guarantees of Palestinian rights it would never end its struggle against Israel for the sake of dialogue with the United States.

A statement reported Sunday by the Palestine news agency WAFA replied to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who said Saturday attacks on Israeli civilians or soldiers could make problems for Washington.

"We wish to make clear to the United States... we will only halt resistance and intifada after clarification of all the guarantees allowing our people to recover their legitimate rights, including a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," the PLO said.

"It is not to the PLO that Baker should address his warnings but to Israel which daily practises terrorism in the occupied territories," the agency said.

Deng praises Bhutto's reconciliation policy

PEKING (R) — Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping Monday praised Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for not taking revenge on her political foes, in an apparent attempt to erase memories of China's ties with her predecessor Zia Ul Haq.

Deng, a survivor of two political purges during China's cultural revolution (1966-76), met Bhutto in Shanghai and applauded her for promising a policy of conciliation in Pakistan, the official New China News Agency reported.

"Various political parties in Pakistan and the Pakistani people are all our friends. I hope they get united to develop Pakistan instead of haggling over past resentment," the agency quoted Deng as saying.

Bhutto's father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was largely responsible in the 1960s and 1970s for forging the close alliance between China

and Pakistan before being ousted in 1977 by Zia and eventually executed.

Chinese leaders nevertheless maintained an "extremely friendly" relationship with Zia until his death in plane crash last year. Peking-based diplomats said.

Deng, a survivor of two political purges during China's cultural revolution (1966-76), met Bhutto in Shanghai and applauded her for promising a policy of conciliation in Pakistan, the official New China News Agency reported.

"Various political parties in Pakistan and the Pakistani people are all our friends. I hope they get united to develop Pakistan instead of haggling over past resentment," the agency quoted Deng as saying.

"All parties and successive governments of Pakistan adhere to having friendly relations with China. Sino-Pakistani friendship is eternal," the report quoted Deng as saying. It did not mention Zia by name.

Bhutto told Deng Monday that both countries needed stability and peace and that his pragmatic economic reforms had brought changes to the whole world."

Deng, 84, told Bhutto: "I am very glad to meet the youngest woman prime minister in the world," the agency said.

Bhutto too has taken pains during her visit to emphasise her family's past links with China and

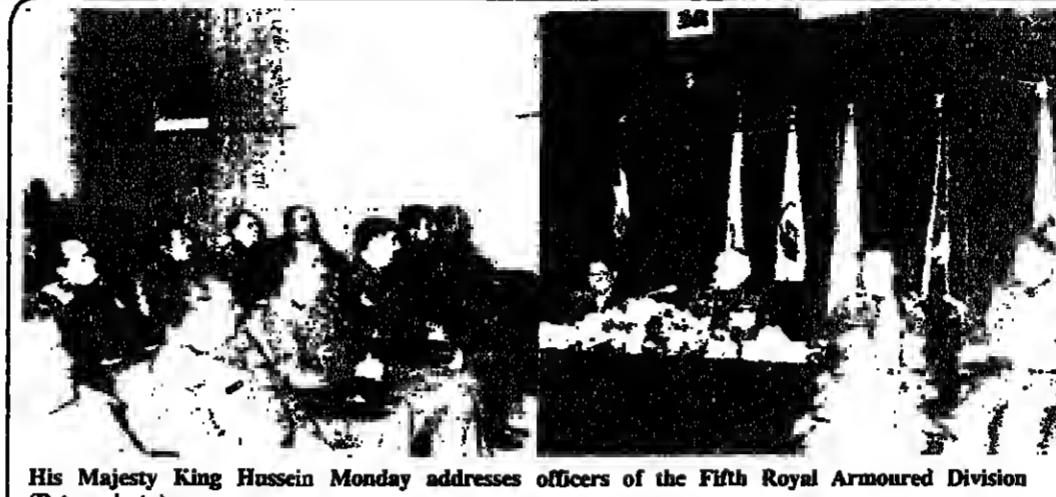
King outlines issues, efforts to officers

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Monday visited the command of the Fifth Royal Armoured Division. After hearing a briefing on the division's duties and activities, the King met with the division officers and expressed absolute confidence in the Armed Forces and admiration in their standards.

The King reviewed a number of issues and developments which concern the region including the stages the Palestine cause has gone through.

The King also referred to the efforts Jordan is exerting on all levels in support of the Palestine cause and said the next few days would witness the birth of a propitious Arab gathering, the nucleus of a greater unionist Arab gathering, which includes Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, and North Yemen.

The King was accompanied by Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ishaq and Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleh.



Premiers meet today for ACC foundation

By P.V. Vivekanand

AMMAN — The Prime Ministers of Egypt, North Yemen, Iraq and Jordan meet in Amman Tuesday to lay the foundations for a sub-regional alliance focusing on economic integration and using complementarities available among the four countries as the first step towards realistic Arab economic interaction.

The proposed Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) will initially group the four countries but its membership will be open to all Arab states which are not members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) or the planned Arab Maghreb Union; in essence it means Syria, Lebanon, Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti and South Yemen.

The four leaders meeting today — Zaid Rifa'i of Jordan, Atif Sedki of Egypt, Taha Yassin Ramadan of Iraq and Abdul Aziz Abdal Ghani of North Yemen — will finalise a framework for cooperation and coordination among the four countries. The four heads of state — His Majesty King Hus-

sein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh — will hold a mini-summit in Baghdad Saturday to formally announce the birth of the ACC.

Jordanian leaders as well as others, including President Saleh, will make it clear that the ACC will not be a political alliance, whose framework is expected to boost an expansion of bilateral economic cooperation agreements among the four member states. Jordan's cooperation with the other three are guided by joint higher committees co-chaired by the respective prime ministers.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem summed up the nature of the ACC in an interview with Reuters last week, by saying the council would be a meeting point, not an axis. "It's too early to talk about a common market," Qasem was quoted as saying by Reuters. "We don't want to promote something unattainable, but we've seen the benefits from what we have done bilaterally and we are

trying to perfect already tangible results."

Uncertainty clouds key Afghan rebel meeting

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Afghan rebels Monday set Tuesday as the start of a key meeting they hope will accelerate progress to peace in their country, but success still hinged on agreement over deep disputes.

The official spokesman of the consultative council, fundamentalist Abdurrah Rasul Sayyaf, scheduled a procedural session for Monday night and a full start Tuesday morning.

He made his announcement through the Afghan News Agency (ANA), which is funded by fundamentalist groups.

Moderates said, however, it was still far from certain the council or Shura, was ready to start.

One moderate group, the Afghan National Liberation Front (ANLF), has threatened to boycott the Shura unless a row over how many seats should be allotted to eight groups based in Iran was settled.

Three moderate groups in a Pakistan-based alliance are pitted against the four fundamentalist members in the row, the most important of several differences.

Sources in the two other moderate parties said they backed the ANLF stand.

An ANLF spokesman said af-

ter Sayyaf's announcement there had been no change in his party's position and it was still awaiting the outcome of marathon talks on the Iran-based seats.

Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Aireza Moayyeri arrived in Islamabad Sunday in a bid to save the Shura, which was called to approve an interim government in Afghanistan as the Soviet withdrawal from the country neared completion.

Moayyeri's talks with the Pakistan-based alliance went into the evening and there was no word of any progress.

If no resolution was reached and the moderates boycotted the Shura along with the Iran-based groups, any Shura that did go ahead would lack the credibility rebel Mujahedeen supporters in Pakistan and the West are seeking.

The political wrangling has disgusted at least one prominent guerrilla commander, Abdul Haq.

He accused the politicians in a

recent interview with Reuters of being more interested in fame and fortune than the future of their country.

Abdul Haq suggested the guerrilla commanders might take matters into their own hands if the politicians failed to unite. Soviet forces are due to have completed their withdrawal from Afghanistan by Wednesday after an unsuccessful nine-year war against the Mujahedeen.

Mujahedeen sources said guerrilla commanders who came for the Shura met at the conference site near the garrison town of Rawalpindi Monday afternoon. There was no word on what were being discussed.

The Shura, which had been previously delayed over the Iran-based representation issue, was scheduled to have started last Friday.

The continuing fight over the problem forced an indefinite postponement after a only brief and formal opening session.

Kahul renews offer

The Afghan government has meanwhile renewed its offer to negotiate directly with rebel commanders.

The Soviet Union Sunday handed over its last outpost, on



An Afghan fighter samples some meat in the border point settlement of Torkham that is under the control of rebels. A blockade by the rebels has worsened normal wintertime shortages of food.

driving up the price of wheat and cooking oil in Kabul. Relief efforts are snagged by fears of safety aired by airline crew.

the edge of Kabul airport, preparing to leave the Afghan government army alone to defend the capital against the rebels.

Soviet and Afghan soldiers cheered as the changeover was completed, and Afghans raised the red, black and green flag of their country.

The Soviet news agency TASS, reporting on an Afghan government statement circulated Sunday, said some rebel commanders

started talks with the government in the past several days.

They said that the absence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan made it possible for them to take part in the process of a peaceful settlement and the termination of fratricide as soon as possible," TASS said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said the government asked the rebels to submit their proposals for nation-

al reconciliation and guaranteed that the government would consider them.

In Kabul, mothers and red-cheeked children stood in snow Monday outside relief centre, hoping to get the few rations and blankets distributed by U.N. workers whose airlift was abruptly halted.

Small amounts of food were distributed in some of the poorest sections of Kabul,

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Cleric rules out early hostage release

BEIRUT (R) — A senior Lebanese Shi'ite religious leader ruled out an early release for the 17 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon because of what he described as "new complications." Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddine, vice-president of the Higher Shi'ite Council, interviewed by the Al Shiraaz weekly over the weekend said: "There are no new factors that could lead to a breakthrough in the hostage issue. Instead new complications have surfaced." Shamseddine did not spell out details of the obstacles in Al Shiraaz. Asked if he was hopeful for an early settlement to the hostage situation he said: "in fact, no. This problem has become very ugly. Those capable of putting an end to it should do so because it has become a stigma in our environment."

Smuggling rings arrested in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian police arrested three separate groups of smugglers Sunday, one a drug ring and two others trafficking in antiquities. Tehran Radio reported. The groups smuggling antiquities were captured in Urumiyeh and Bazarqan, near the border with Turkey, said the report, monitored in Nicosia. Police seized a total of 1,500 historical artifacts, some dating back to 2,000 B.C., it said. Items seized included silver, precious stones, cloth and clocks. The report did not specify how many people were arrested. The drug smuggling ring was arrested in the northeastern city of Gonbad. Thirteen people were arrested and police seized 515 grammes of heroin and six kilogrammes of opium. Police also confiscated cash, checks and three motorcycles, the report said. Iran is estimated to have between 500,000 and one million drug addicts and a tough new anti-drug law designed to stamp out the problem went into effect last month. It mandates the death penalty for 30 grammes of heroin and five kilos. More than a hundred smugglers have been executed under the new law.

Two Afghans held for smuggling arms

QUETTA, Pakistan (R) — Police arrested two Afghans and seized two trucks loaded with arms near the borders of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran, officials said Monday. The arms included anti-aircraft guns, remote control bombs, rockets, rocket launchers, Kalashnikov assault rifles and ammunition, and were being brought into Pakistan. The two men were arrested in Pakistan's Girdi forest near Dalbandin, about 32 kilometres from the border. Officials did not say what the men intended to do with the arms.

GCC population to hit 27.8 by 2000

BAHRAIN (AP) — A regional study Monday forecast an increase of nine million in the collective population of countries member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) by the turn of the century. The Gulf News Agency said figures compiled by Bahrain's central statistical agency said the collective population in the six states will rise to 19.53 million next year, 23.26 by 1999 and 27.860 by the year 2000. The GCC groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. The present GCC population was estimated by the study at 18.6 million. It estimated the average annual rate of GCC population increase until 1990 at 3.63 per cent, dropping to 3.29 per cent in the next five years and to 3.2 until the end of the century. Saudi Arabia is the most populated country among the GCC states. The study said the kingdom's population four years ago was 11.24 million, and expected it to reach 13.506 million by 1990, 16.50 million by 1995 and 18.664 at the turn of the century. Population figures by 1990 in the five other GCC states were estimated at 503,000 for Bahrain, 1,544 million for the UAE, 1,430 million for Oman, 354,000 for Qatar and 2,188 million for Kuwait.

AMMAN PLAZA

Celebrate Valentine's Day Dinner At 1001 Nights Club



with The Lebanese Singer: Gina Muhab.

Singer: Osama Abdullah.

Belly dancer:

Lolita.

accompanied by:

the Oriental band.

JD. 12:50 Per Person:

Dinner Inclusive

For Reservations

Please call: 674111

Reserve Your Seats Now!

Iranians demonstrate in Los Angeles, call for restoration of monarchy

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Thousands of Iranian immigrants marking the 10th anniversary of the revolution that ousted the Shah of Iran shouted "Death to Khomeini" and called for restoration of the Shah's peacock throne.

The group of about 12,000 expatriate Iranians also listened as the late monarch's son delivered an impassioned speech Sunday calling on his followers to bring him to power.

"This is the day to honour the memory of all our compatriots who lost their lives in war, in prisons and in the torture chambers of this bloodthirsty regime," said Prince Reza Pahlavi, who is considered by sympathisers of his late father to be the rightful successor to the throne and ruler of Iran.

The rally inside the Los Angeles sports arena near downtown contrasted with mass gatherings in Teheran, Iran, Saturday where up to four million people celebrated Khomeini's rule and chanted "Death to America."

The rally was staged in Los Angeles because the city has the largest Iranian population outside Iran, with an estimated 500,000 expatriates living here.

Reza Pahlavi

Iranian businessmen handed out free tickets to the rally that was attended by many families and children. Everyone entering the venue was frisked by police after passing through metal detectors.

Thousands in the crowd waved flags bearing the symbol of the Shah's regime, stomped their feet, clapped and chanted anti-Khomeini slogans.

Pahlavi, 28, took the stage to thunderous applause, holding his hands over his head in fists, blowing kisses and tossing roses into

the crowd.

He condemned the Khomeini regime, saying it has "spilled the blood of hundreds of thousands of Iranians," and "caused the wholesale destruction of the country."

He said all Iranians should come together and work to return the royal family to power.

"It is time for our intellectuals, our youth, our talented and experienced compatriots who have been forced into exile... to enter the stage of history, to lead and organise, to encourage cooperation while respecting diversity of tastes and ideology," he said.

"The war with Iraq has kept our collective attention focused on an external enemy. With the end of war, the bankruptcy of the regime is even more evident," Pahlavi said.

Pahlavi conducted his entire 40-minute speech in his native language of Farsi. English translations of the address were provided to the news media.

Heide Salem said the enthusiastic reception for Pahlavi represented the unity among Iranians living outside their native country.

"The emotion you heard was one voice," she said, "one loud voice."

Bazargan party may contest elections

NICOSIA (R) — The Freedom Movement led by former Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan says that it will contest presidential elections in August if the government relaxed political restrictions.

The movement is officially banned but the official Iranian news agency IRNA, received in Nicosia, Sunday carried a report of a news conference which it held in north Tehran.

"We will participate in the presidential election and any other elections providing a free climate exists," former Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi, a ranking party member, was quoted as saying.

"If the people accept parties and group work we will move towards an acceptable multi-party system. This is our hope and effort... and we are hopeful of the future."

The Freedom Movement is one of more than 30 parties or associations which have applied for official registration.

Yazdi, foreign minister under Bazargan in the first cabinet after the 1979 revolution, urged the government to show goodwill by ending bans on opposition parties and newspapers.

He said the Freedom Movement accepted the authority of Iran's religious leadership as a principle of the constitution. "We are not against the system, (but) we oppose the actions of the government," he was quoted as saying.

"Provided (there is) a free press, freedom of gatherings and freedom of thought, we will not turn our backs... and we will actively take part in the elections."

Bazargan, whose government fell after eight months under a barrage of criticism for not implementing revolutionary reforms fast enough, said in an interview published in Tehran in January that the Freedom Movement wanted to operate legally.

HOSPITALS

Telephone Information

(directory assistance) 12

Oversas Calls 17

Central Amman Telephone

Repair 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 623101

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power

Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 08-5200

AMAL Hospital 674155

ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital 091983323

Zarqa National Hospital 091991071

Ibn Sina Hospital 091986732

IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital 02175555

Greek Catholic Hospital 03272375

Basra Nafaa Hospital 03247100

AQABA: Princess Hayfa Hospital 03314111

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 500 / 450

Banana 350 / 300

Banana (Mukammari) 300 / 250

Beans 750 / 650

Broccoli 650 / 550

Cabbage 340 / 280

Carrots 310 / 260

Cauliflower 270 / 200

Cucumbers 560 / 500

Dates 600 / 500

Eggplant 280 / 200

Garlic 230 / 180

Grapefruit 220 / 160

Lemon 250 / 200

Lettuce (per one) 150 / 100

Marrow (large) 500 / 400

Marrow (small) 700 / 600

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 Cairo (MS)

10:30 Kuwait (KU)

13:15

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جريدة الأردن اليومية независимая ежедневная газета на английском языке, издаваемая Фондом Прессы Иордании. Основана в 1975 году.

Editorial Director:
RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:
DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:
DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

The white snow conspiracy

IT IS interesting, if not outright puzzling, to notice how everytime we get a few centimetres of snow life comes to a halt! The first aspect of Jordanian life to "panic" at the sight of the first few millimetres of snow is of course our institutions of learning. Soon afterwards the chain reaction to the closure of schools and universities picks up speed to give every Jordanian Tom, Dick and Harry a license to take a day or two of extra holidays. By and large the first of "vacationers" are the young ones among us who happen to make up more than half of the total population. The "older" generation are thus left on their own to "sweat out" the dreary long office hours in paralysing work conditions.

One would have thought that Jordanians of all walks of life would have gotten used to snow by now since we get it not once a year but twice or three times! And as our young energetic generation takes it out on the snow by playing with it all day long, unperturbed by any "hazards" that are traditionally associated with snow games, there is really no reason for them to take time out from their classrooms or offices on the pretext that snow makes their itineraries to and from their normal destinations unusually hazardous.

And come to think of it, whatever happened to the "greenhouse effect" theory that the world has gotten used to hearing about and which "promised" the heating up of the planet Earth as a consequence of burning up too much fossil fuel? Considering the unusual cold weather conditions that our region has been experiencing of late, this heating up phenomenon should be shot to pieces out of scientific journals. If anything the Middle East region is getting colder and not warmer as projected. In fact Jordanians are missing the good old days when our winters were short and mild.

Meanwhile, this effect of the greenhouse phenomenon seems to hit Europe, especially its skiing slopes, with a vengeance this year. By all accounts European ski tourism this year has been devastated, costing winter resorts hundreds of millions of dollars. All these freak weather conditions happened while places like Alaska have been experiencing record cold weather measuring down to 65 degrees below zero!

All these physical phenomena prompt one to call it the white snow conspiracy. The closure of schools and offices over the last two days must have cost the country much money. Fortunately Jordanians are not so materialistically minded people as to measure few extra days off from work and studies in monetary terms. Our culture takes these things in its stride, while maybe whispering the good old song: "Que sera sera." But considering that Jordanians, whether old or young, do not really have much of a weekend, it appears only just that nature in the form of white snow would come to their rescue by offering them some compensation for much denied leisure time that need not be spent on traditional social duties, be they pleasant or sad!

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Monday said that the Arab arena is currently witnessing an international activity designed to bring about peace to the Middle East. Besides the current tour of European Community foreign ministers, a British minister has embarked on a tour of Iraq, Kuwait and Bahrain and the Soviet foreign minister will head for this region shortly to discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper noted. It said this keen interest in the developments of this region comes as a direct response to the Arab Nation's clear and open orientation towards peace and also as a fruit of the uprising in Palestine and the PLO's declaration of acceptance of U.N. Security Council resolutions. There is no doubt that the Europeans will find that their initiative is in line with the Arab policies with regard to an end to the state of war and will ascertain that the Arab Nation is willingly seeking peace and stability following long years of struggle and unrest, the paper added.

A columnist in Al Ra'i's daily Monday comments on the projected Arab Cooperation Council (AAC) which will group Jordan, North Yemen, Iraq and Egypt. Failed Al Fanek says that those who engineered the idea were certain that Jordan can play a pivotal role due to its geographical location and the tactful diplomatic skill of His Majesty King Hussein. Jordan for its part is not advocating the idea of an economic grouping as a diplomatic luxury but rather because this country will benefit greatly from such regional bloc and because it is acting in line with the principles of the Great Arab Revolt that call for unity among Arabs. Above all, Fanek says, Jordan is a small country whose moderate policies are acceptable to all the states in the region and following the rupture of links with the West Bank it is natural for the Kingdom to seek strong links with other Arab countries in pursuit of its national goals and objectives.

Al Dastour daily discussed King Hussein's address to the American journalists whom he briefed on the situation in the Middle East and emphasised the need for peace that could come through an international conference. The King voiced optimism over the prevailing East-West detente and the favourable world political situation which is conducive to solving regional conflicts and ending world tensions, the paper said. The paper said that it was hoped that the present situation would prompt major powers to remove all obstacles remaining in the path of a Middle East peace and that includes Israel's intransigence. It is not reasonable to see the Israeli leadership's rejectionist policies creating tension in the world while major powers continue to work closely for peace and world security, the paper said. Peace in the Middle East, the paper said can come immediately once the Israeli side has been made to accept the world community's resolutions and once Tel Aviv has responded favourably to the PLO's positive bid.

Sawt Al Shaab daily tackled the King's statement at a meeting with a group of American journalists. The King explained Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Middle East question and called for the implementation of U.N. resolutions through an international conference, the paper said.

Weekly Political Pulse

Strike while the iron is hot

IF ISRAELI leaders think that they can have their troops cross the Israeli borders into any Arab territory, engage any elements belonging to the PLO, kill them and then cry wolf and accuse the killed ones as being terrorists, then there is no limit to what Israel may do to make a point or two to the American side.

That is exactly what Israel did last week when its occupying armed forces "intercepted" five Palestinians on Lebanese territory and shot them dead. If this is the kind of logic that Israel would like the Americans to accept as basis for revoking the U.S. decision to negotiate with the PLO, then there is nothing that can stop Israeli troops from crossing into any other Arab country, engage any Arab force and then bring charges that the "liquidated" force was about to practice acts of terrorism against Israel! Ironically this fallacious and lopsided Israeli perspective continued unabated even on the heels of the U.S. State Department human rights report for 1988 in which Washington accused Israel point blank of abominable human rights violations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Had the drafters of this American human rights report avoided diplomatic niceties and acted with less sensitivity to Jewish and Israeli feelings, they would have made a stronger case to substantiate the charge that Israeli troops are engaged in daily acts of terrorism against unarmed Palestinians of all ages, particularly children. Fortunately however, all the whitewashing done to lessen the gravity of the accusation levelled against the Israelis did not succeed in biding the fact that Israeli occupying troops are drowned up to their ears

in all sorts of terrorist acts against the Palestinian people.

If there is one redeeming development out of all this Israeli terrorism in the occupied territories it is the message transmitted by the latest polls taken in Israel which reveal for the first time ever that Israelis now tend to be more dovish than their aging leaders and that a sizable segment of them are becoming more susceptible to the Arab point of view on the fundamentals of the issues of war and peace in the Middle East.

This kind of evolution in Israeli public opinion in the direction of reasonableness can be helped and accelerated by international public opinion especially in the Western world with which Israelis feel they have cultural affinity. Crystal clear positions, as the one taken by U.S. Vice-President Dan Quayle who causticized Israel that the killing of Palestinians is "clearly unacceptable", are the sort of stands that the Israeli body politic needs to bolster its otherwise peaceful sentiments.

It is also encouraging to hear that the U.S. reacted cautiously to Israel's arrogant demand that the pre-judicial talks between Washington and the PLO should end forthwith on the grounds of the South Lebanon incident. After promising to look into the matter, the U.S. government has decided to reject the Israeli advice. Such developments could help shape a new Israeli psychology, one that is more conducive to the continuation of the peace process in the Middle East. Above all, such developments would abort all Israeli desperate attempts to label the mainstream of the PLO as terrorist through and through. This is out to

mention the fact that this path would end the insatiable Israeli appetite to maintain its troops on Arab soil and exploit their presence to wage terrorist acts against Arabs be they Palestinians or otherwise and them scream that they were the terrorists.

Still, there remains the issue of how to maintain the momentum of the American-Palestinian dialogue. With the Bush administration wishing to put its participation in the attempts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflicts on hold, pending the conclusion of its soul searching on all foreign matters, there is fear that lack of progress in the U.S.-PLO talks could touch off a regression and an end to the momentum that was initially sparked by the first encounter between the two sides. There is a saying that goes: "one should strike while the iron is hot," and there is anxiety over that the iron is getting cold and less amenable to any striking if we all wait a little longer. And if that iron cools off then the whole foundation of the peace process will not only cool off but may very well freeze.

Of course there are still ways available to keep the iron hot: Stop Israeli tactics of pouring cold water on it every time the eyes of the world are turning somewhere else. Perhaps the most effective way is to preempt all futuristic Israeli designs on it by declaring openly and forcefully to Israeli leaders that they better start paying attention to the sentiments of their own people and stop their mischievous attacks on the PLO's commitments made public in Geneva late last year.

OPEC, non-OPEC — still worlds apart

By Maryam Schiller

VIENNA, Austria — OPEC ministers are bracing for a new round of diplomatic sparring with non-OPEC oil producers on the eve of a summit meeting of the oil group planned for Vienna.

"The message of OPEC solidarity seems out to be headed by major non-OPEC producers although there is some improvement in understanding our case," said one OPEC source.

To particular, said the source, the Soviet Union recently has indicated its willingness to talk with OPEC members on production and quotas. Other major non-OPEC producers in Europe and North America, however, remain largely unresponsive to the Vienna-based Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which groups 13 countries of the Middle East, Africa and Latin America.

The problem of lack of communication between OPEC and producers outside it is a longstanding one. Tension between the two sides, originally representing "producers" and "consumers", is a historical by-product of the price increases in the 1970s. Now that the price is down, and recovery of the oil markets slow, a deep-rooted suspicion of OPEC has come in the way of what oil experts see as a much-needed coordination of pricing and production policies across the board.

OPEC has been trying to build bridges with non-member producers since the boom in prices despite that improvement, oil

ended in the mid-1980s. Each time it has been rebuffed by the Western oil producers outside the club, particularly Norway, Britain and the United States, who argued that they will not participate in OPEC's price fixing strategies and compromise their commitment to the free market.

The OPEC's response has been that its strategy is not different from that of other commodity producers who respond to prices and supply on the market.

The planned summit, to be preceded by high-level ministerial talks in Vienna, may tackle the issue of coordination with earnestness. Venezuelan President-elect Carlos Andres Perez, back in Caracas after a Gulf tour, said, "Many players are active in the energy market and if stability is to come, all of them will have to cooperate on basics." Perez made the remark after a meeting with the oil ministers of Iraq, Ecuador, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela at the Venezuelan holiday resort of Macuto.

OPEC secretary-general Dr. Subroto, of Indonesia, said the Macuto talks in fact had taken note of "the appreciation being expressed by the oil industry and consumer states on the positive outcome of OPEC efforts to stabilize the market" since a new production agreement took effect on January 1. Subroto said the baseless but rampant propaganda that "OPEC is the root of all evil," responsible for world inflation and high prices, was a thing of the past.

Despite that improvement, oil

experts point out that there is little room for complacency. As OPEC Deputy Secretary General Dr. Fadih Al Chalabi of Iraq told delegates at a recent World Economic Forum session in Davos, Switzerland, crude oil prices were still "fragile" due to the supply and demand imbalances.

Chalabi emphasized that OPEC needed the help of non-OPEC producers and that there should be an understanding on output between the two groups. What was needed between OPEC and non-OPEC countries, he said, was a framework for cooperation rather than a formal

agreement. This could take the shape of a tripartite arrangement involving OPEC members and non-members as well as the consumers — "out to set a price, but find areas of agreement."

Chalabi confirmed that the oil group had never approached the Soviet Union with the request to

reduce its oil production, but Moscow had shown understanding to OPEC's position. No direct negotiations are believed to have taken place between OPEC and the Soviet Union, the world's largest oil producer, but Moscow has shown an interest in such a meeting.

The non-confrontational nature of OPEC's ties with the Soviet Union has been cited as an example to other non-OPEC producers. Saadallah Al Fathi, head of the energy department at the OPEC secretariat in Vienna, recently told a seminar in Spain he thought it "regrettable" that commercial oil stocks were used by Western countries to "apply undue pressure on the market rather than strictly to meet seasonal variations and to keep the overall distribution system in balance."

Such practices, he said, were harmful for everyone. World oil stocks should be regulated to serve the purpose for which they were intended in the first place and not to destabilize OPEC, said Fathi.

Whether any of that counselling will be heeded remains to be seen. As one analyst put it, "While the price remains on a roller coaster, the market and policy-making organs in the industrial countries, be those oil producers or consumers, will continue to maintain their wait-and-see posture."

"There may be some softening towards OPEC, but few of those concerned are willing to show it yet," — Academic File.

Critics ask: Is Bush another Jimmy Carter?

By Gene Gibbons

Reuter

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine — President Bush, who spoke of a promising "new breeze" in his inaugural speech, has hit heavy weather in his first weeks in office and critical voices are growing louder already.

"Did we elect another Carter?" read the headline over a commentary by conservative columnist Kevin Phillips, referring to Jimmy Carter who was unlucky and generally unpopular as president from 1977 to 1981.

Bush, who succeeded the immensely popular Ronald Reagan on January 20, got his first taste

of the pressures that accompany the presidency when word was leaked three days later that his administration was considering a plan to impose fees on bank deposits to help stop the collapse of the U.S. savings industry.

The storm over the plan, which was quickly rejected, was still going when a controversy erupted over whether Dr. Louis Sullivan, Bush's nominee as health secretary, was out of step with his boss's opposition to anti-abortion laws.

No sooner was that resolved when questions about the character of defense secretary-designate John Tower caused a full-blown crisis for Bush that is still in progress.

Bush's efforts to set a high ethical tone for his presidency were further hampered by more minor controversies over potential conflicts of interest involving Secretary of State James Baker and White House counsel Leo O'Donnell.

Phillips wrote in his column: "Nobody wants to find fault too quickly. Yet, at a little more than 50 per cent, Mr. Bush's public opinion rating is low for this stage of a presidential term."

"Already, there is sub rosa talk about a Republican enactment of Carter administration bumbling."

Bush aides shrugged off the criticism, saying these episodes

had received more attention than would normally be the case because that usually occurs when the White House changes hands.

Bush is the first president elected to succeed a leader from the same party since Herbert Hoover replaced Calvin Coolidge in 1929.

Andrew Card, deputy White House chief of staff, told Reuters: "In the first three weeks, we have done everything we set out to do."

"George Bush wanted to set a tone for his administration of ethical behaviour, service and values and he has done so."

Card noted that Bush had been

widely praised for his first political decision — using a mixture of private and public financing to raise tens of billions of dollars needed to protect government-insured savings and loan deposits and put the savings industry back on its feet.

"It was the biggest financial decision ever made by a president and he did it in his first 20 days," Card said.

Adding to Bush's problems were events beyond his control, such as Friday's double blow on the economic front: News that the wholesale price index rose by one percentage point last month, the biggest monthly jump in more than three years, and a decision

by big U.S. banks to increase their prime interest rate to 11 per cent, its highest level in four years.

Economic analysts said higher borrowing costs could make it more difficult for Bush to reduce the country's huge budget deficit, his main priority.

The bad economic news came in the morning after Bush's first address to Congress.

He unveiled a \$1.16 trillion federal budget that would slow the growth in defense spending and boost funding to help achieve his vision of a "kinder, gentler" country.

He said he would reduce the deficit to \$91 billion.

OPEN FORUM

great benefit to their owners. Education is of prime importance too, as if an animal is properly cared for, it will last much longer.

The two dressers are teaching the owners for instance not to tie ropes too tightly on legs. One animal was seen to lose its entire foot some time ago because blood circulation had been cut off. Some owners have been using sharp nylon string and even telephone wire, pleading that they didn't have anything else!

Therefore, SPANA has decided to provide many webbing neck-collars encourage tying by the neck, which is much safer and prevents rope burns on legs, and puffed muscles and joints. New strong ropes will be provided too, and humane bits where required. Mr. Girauden was also delighted to see the interest shown by village children, who all crowded round to see what was happening. He is keen on educating children at an early age. Copies of the book "Islamic Concern for Animals", which tells how humans should be kind to animals with over 150 quotations from the sacred writings of Islam, will hopefully appear in schools and libraries, and one copy goes round in the mobile clinic so that the dressers can quote from it to make people understand that they should be kind to animals.

A few weeks ago a large mule which sustained two broken legs after a road accident in the city was kept suffering for over 17 hours. SPANA now asks that anyone seeing such an incident in future should immediately contact Dr. Basel Arafat at the Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Institute at Al Qusseib, telephone number 771111. It is hoped that some time in the future it will provide one or more animal shelters not only for equines, but also for dogs and cats, which hitherto have had no help at all. SPANA would be most grateful for support and funds.

Miss Chris Larter, (On behalf of SPANA)
P.O. Box 184540
Amman

Caring for beasts of burden

VISITING Jordan last week was Mr. Guy Girauden, Chief Executive of SPANA, the Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa. SPANA was founded in 1923 by Mrs. Frances Kate Hosall and her daughter Nira, after a visit to North Africa in 1921 in search of sunshine had appealed them when they found hundreds of instances of neglect and ignorance of pack and domestic animals. Mrs. Hosall went out alone in 1923 and began work in Algeria in the Medinas, (commercial quarters), Souks, (country markets), and Fondouks, (enclosures for pack animals), treating wounded and bleeding saddle-sores and listless withers herself, often in the scorching heat, shunning cynicism, scorn and indifference.

Since then SPANA has been working unceasingly in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia for animal welfare and now gives, rest, refuge and treatment to over 300,000 animals each year. Humaneness and harnesses are supplied to replace those that are found to be crude and painful to the animals. There are now 19 permanent animal refuges and centres, and over 100 markets and souks and fondouks visited by trained dressers. The work of the Society has only been made possible by the generosity and support of many

Features

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1989

Waleed Sae

More Jordanian yuppies

This is the second of a two part article by Samer Badaro.

Two examples we have encountered in our survey of the Jordanian yuppie telling one side of the story, those highly qualified but lowly paid for what they do. What of those that are highly paid and lowly qualified for what they pretend to do? Here is the flip side of it.

At the head of the accounting division in a public sector firm, lies another yuppie, a civil engineer by training. "Our philosophy is the right man for the wrong job," he explains. "If the work is not being done, then you have to put the person capable of addressing the shortcomings of those incapable of assuming responsibility, qualifications do not matter because one can always learn on the job. Take me for example, I knew nothing about accounting when I started here, but there was a problem and I was to fix it. My department could not have risen to its current level of efficient fiscal management without the administrative reforms I have personally introduced." Asked whether he has any regrets about practicing his engineer trade, he told of colleagues who had decided to tough it out with engineering, ending up with posts that pay less than the average earnings of a mediocre secretary or, worse, still looking for a job. "I am all too fortunate that my family was able to provide me with this opportunity. I have job security, benefits, a car, a chauffeur, two secretaries, a flexible

schedule, work amongst my friends and relatives, and I earn more than I could have ever dreamt off as a civil engineer."

Jordanian by birth but foreign by training, the next yuppie had the homefield advantage. He had been contracted from abroad to serve as foreign consultant to one of the country's leading development projects; thus he might have been better suited within the definition of the American YUP rather than the Jordanian YUP. Needless to say his salary towered well beyond what our "civil engineer/turn-around accountant" friend will ever dream of.

He spoke of a noble commitment towards the development of the "land of the fathers." Waxed eloquent, he then retorted: "I am confident of the future because we have succeeded in achieving great strides here and now. I can say that as the third world struggles to catch up with the twentieth century, we in Jordan are already being initiated into the twenty first. The post-industrial societies of North America and Europe are slowly but surely shifting their economies towards services and the tertiary sector, leaving the actual industry and agriculture to those third world countries where labour is cheap and raw materials abundant. We, as observers and advisors, have observed this here, and have thus proceeded to encourage the service sector in order to permit it to assume a leading role in the region as a whole, without getting bogged in the myrads of jodous-

try and its terrible social and ecological side-effects."

"Prove to me that unemployment exists in Jordan," he exclaims in obvious discomfort once his logic is questioned. "If the services emphasis has caused unemployment then explain the presence of tens of thousands of migrant workers here. There might be a slight overabundance of white collar professionals and some shortage in blue collar skilled labour; and vice-versa in terms of available jobs. But this is the fault of your educational system which is simply educating people too much."

"No, restructuring the secondary school system to emphasise vocational training would not help," asserts the indigenous foreign consultant, "because the country does not have an infrastructure, industrial or agricultural, that could sustain a sharp growth in skilled labour. Besides, nobody would recommend putting all your dear investment eggs into one basket of insecurity in the industrial or agricultural sector." Asked why not, "why because of the economic shift towards services of course?" Asked why the shift in investment from productive agriculture (even if small-scale) and industry (even if light) towards services took place to start with, he explained after a short silence, "well I believe that we can only present recommendations in the light of the actual conditions as and at the time we see them, and to coordinate with the foresight of the

responsible administrative machinery."

We inquired if that translated into showing what was already known and telling what was desired to be heard. His response was this: "look you have to fully comprehend the sociometric exigencies and the tautology of the process of multilateral development before you can come to terms with a radical shift in the poles of economic integration; and in the absence of such sociometric exigencies we can only emphasise what's only rudimentary and potential." At that point we decided that his argument was convincing and congratulated him on his high success where others had failed.

We had forgotten to ask our last interviewee about his field of expertise. But just as we prepared to leave walked in a yuppie in the making, fresh back from the United States where he had studied nuclear physics, astronomy, and dance education. We apologised about not being able to interview him because that return to Jordan meant that the last leg of his genetic process (transplantation into original conditions) has not yet been completed.

These are a few samples of our very own Jordanian yuppie. This true revolution in genetic engineering could be your neighbour, your friend, may be even yourself. Take heart, we've come a long way.



Buzkashi is a game of courage and skill on the part of both man and horse. It is a ritual, a celebration, a test of bravery and expertise. The 'buz' or buzz is the headless stuffed body of a goat or



calf. Men have won and lost their reputations according to the prowess they display on the field.

Horsemen of Afghanistan

BUZKASHI is a game played by Afghan horsemen, chiefly to mark a particular occasion — the King's birthday, a wedding, a circumcision... But is 'game' the right word?

It is a ritual, a celebration, strength and skill on the part of both man and horse. It is the culmination of years of training, a symbolic struggle that has all the power, the drama and the bear-stopping excitement of athletic prowess.

These are a few samples of our very own Jordanian yuppie. This true revolution in genetic engineering could be your neighbour, your friend, may be even yourself. Take heart, we've come a long way.

horsemen as archetypes, these descendants of Genghis Khan, whose ancestors terrorised the world from China to Hungary.

"Various" called Scythians, Huns, Turks and Mogols, all emerged from the extraordinary crucible of Central Asia, their bodies and spirits shaped by relentless nature in a hostile land where the temperature ranges from intense cold to searing heat. Sometimes shepherds, sometimes warriors, sometimes merely bandits, according to their leaders and the chances of history, they recognised in Genghis the khan of khans... Lest his followers should become soft, Genghis Khan instituted compulsory hunting as a training for war. Serious practise was disguised as fun. But the tactics used in hunting — riding in pursuit of the quarry, attacking it 'in the field' or 'with the whip', encircling it and finally killing it in close combat — were all tactics used in battle."

In their latest work, French photographers Roland and Sabrina Michaud have created a spectacular photographic record of the game of buzkashi built up over 14 years. The Michauds came to see the modern day

outside force their mounts into the centre of the furious swarm, and the horses buck, plunge, and rear up on their hind legs, eyes rolling, nostrils flaring, mouths flecked with foam. Wave upon wave the riders attack. It is not live prey in the centre of the circle now but the headless body of an animal, the buzz, around which the game is played. When a horseman succeeds in throwing the carcass down in the 'circle of

BOOK REVIEW

justice' he wins the match. Hours of attack, pursuit, scrimmage and disentanglement precede that moment, and the buzz will have passed through many hands before it comes to rest on the ritual spot. Neither the elite riders, known as the chobandor, nor their horses are afraid of the savage intensity of the game: mindless of anything but the pursuit of the quarry, they seem immune to pain.

"A chobandor suddenly flings himself down among the quivering legs and trampling hooves, bent under his horse, his hands scraping the ground as he reaches

for the carcass; if he misses and gets back into the saddle, his horse will stand over the buzz to keep it from other riders. It will protect him too should he fall off. Man and animal are equally trained in the rules of the game. Training is perhaps too mechanical a finding for what we have here is an emotional bond between horse and rider that has been centuries in the making."

As early as the ninth century BC horses played a major role in the nomadic lifestyle of the people of the Steppes. To hunters and herdsmen alike the horse became not just a source of wealth but essential to life, no less used to sparse rations than his master. On expeditions to find food or fresh areas of grazing, the two were inseparable. The rider never left his horse, hardly ever dismounting even to sleep, mindful of the ancient saying of the Steppes: "When a Tartar has lost his horse, there is nothing left for him but to die." In 102 stunning colour illustrations Roland and Sabrina Michaud have captured much of the centuries old spirit of that inter-dependence, as well as the ritual, courage and skill that is buzkashi.



Refugees and victims of drought and earthquakes are amongst those who have benefited from WFP emergency assistance.



Projects to clear drainage ditches and canals are vital, particularly in countries prone to flooding.

To save the hungry

This is the second of a two part article published by the Journal of the World Food Programme on food aid for development and emergencies in the last 25 years.

By Bonita Brindley

Between 1965 and 1972, the growing confidence of the international community found its expression in higher pledges from an increasing number of countries, including developing countries. Contributions which were \$87 million at the start of the Programme in 1963, rose to \$320 million in 1969-70, which was 160 per cent of the target.

Just when things looked the brightest, a severe crisis arose.

The world food situation changed dramatically in a very short time!

Distorted weather patterns created widespread food shortages across the Indian sub-continent and in the USSR. Agricultural policies changed in major exporting countries; currency devaluations and re-evaluations occurred, and speculation switched from traditional securities to commodities. A rapid rise in oil prices led to increased costs for freight rates and agricultural inputs such as fertilisers.

The cumulative effect of all these events was devastating. The Programme was forced to reduce project allocations and some operations had to be suspended. Many projects had to be phased out. The number of beneficiaries and the size of rations had to be reduced. Besides making it difficult for the Programme to continue its work, fears arose that the crisis of 1973-74 would seriously undermine the good relationships and confidence built up so carefully over the previous ten years.

King Faisal

Just when things looked bad, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia donated \$50 million in cash to the Programme. Not only was this the second largest donation ever made, it also represented a turning point in that it came from a non-industrial developing country which was a net importer of foodstuffs. It signified a change from the idea of surplus food disposal to the better idea of a shared responsibility for feeding the poor and hungry of the world.

This trend continues today with more and more countries which are not exporters of food emerging as cash donors.

In 1987, the Programme spent almost \$900 million in development and emergency assistance.

Contributions to the regular programme for the 1987-88 biennium have so far reached \$1,147 million. WFP now receives about 25 per cent of its donations in cash, which is a critical factor in improving the ability of the poorest countries to absorb food aid. One difficulty in using food aid was recognised almost immediately back in the early days of the Programme and remains serious. Even when human labour is the dominant input to a project, there are always many other costs which must be met. Finding these non-food resources — trucks, tools, storage etc. — is difficult and can severely limit or even prevent food aid from being used to its full potential.

One of the major shortcomings of food aid is its inability to reduce absolute poverty. Increasing food production only partially addresses the problem of hunger if the people in the country have no money to purchase. Therefore, one of the most important measures to reduce hunger is to generate employment and that is where food-for-work comes in.

"From the very start of the Programme, it was recognised that food is an important resource in development," said WFP Executive Director, James Ingram. "What has changed is that we now know a lot more about using food aid for development and we use it on a much greater scale. Our main thrust is on food-for-work. This enables us to reach the really poor, those willing to work for food. At the same time we also address the causes of poverty."

In India, for example, throughout the Seventies WFP supported the development of the dairy industry through "Operation Flood," the largest such project at the time, which increased milk production by 50 per cent and now benefits some 30 million people. A similar project has since begun in China and aims to double milk production to about eight million litres of safe drinking water. The difficult logistics were exacerbated by more than 80 camp evacuations necessitated by the ongoing hostilities.

Since 1970, WFP has assisted the government of the Arab Republic of Egypt in increasing agricultural production by sponsoring projects in land reclamation; development and resettlement at a cost of \$200 million. For example, WFP supplies food to the formerly nomadic bedouin while they establish themselves as farmers.

WFP's strongest commitment

is to the millions of refugees

and displaced persons cut off from their usual sources of food by natural disasters or internal strife.

About eight million of the world's

population live in areas of conflict.

These represent only a small segment of the Programme's work which includes more than a thousand development projects and hundreds of emergency and rehabilitation projects all over the developing world. Instead of despair, there is hope; instead of dying, people survive. The World Food Programme does not provide charity; instead it offers the dignity of work and the promise of a brighter future.

With only seven per cent of the world's arable land, China must feed one-fifth of the world's population. In addition to the \$65 million dairy development project, WFP is involved in social and economic development projects in the north and west of China. The objective is to restore ecological balance to land degraded by population pressure. These projects include terracing, tree planting, land leveling and drainage improvement. WFP is contributing \$475 million, little respect to the population of China.

In 1987, the Programme spent

almost \$900 million in development and emergency assistance.

Cinema CONCORD
INNER SPACE
Performance: 3:30, 6:15, 9:00

Cinema NIJOU
NICO
Performance: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema PLAZA
Spring Fever
Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

To advertise in this section
Call 667171-6
670141-4
ext. 223

STUDIO HAIG
Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at our shop and get:
• JUMBO photo size 30% larger
• Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042. Sweifach tel: 823891

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-15:30
18:00-23:30
Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 638968

MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00-15:30
18:00-23:30
Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialties
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT
TAIWAN TOURISM Authentic Chinese Food
Korean Bar-B-Q Charcoal Flaming Pot
Take-away service
Open Daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akilah Hospital Tel: 641093

Kashmir Restaurant FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT
Special Executive Luncheons Take away service available
Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm 7:30-11:30 pm
After the Holiday Inn hotel Towards 3rd circle Tel: 659519 659520

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

For all your:

Packing,
Air Freight Forwarding,
Customs Clearance,
Door-to-door Service,
Ticketing and
Reservation needs,
please call:

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Abdel Hamid Sharaf Street
Shmeisani
P.O. Box 7806
Amman, Jordan
Tel. 604670, 604696
half of SPAK

Maghreb may be grand alliance among African economic groups

NAIROBI (R) — With rich natural resources, a proposed Arab Maghreb union could become a "grand alliance" among Africa's regional economic blocs.

Existing African partnerships range from a bilateral pact for duty free trade between Zimbabwe and Botswana to a 16-nation economic community in West Africa.

None has the potential economic muscle of the Maghreb union which would link Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia in a total of common market of 62 million people.

Their leaders meet in Marakesh Wednesday to try transform a blueprint for unity into reality.

Proposed regional integration in Africa, the poorest continent, as a way to avoid depending on the West.

Few of Africa's many debt-ravaged countries have widely developed local markets or industry and most rely heavily on exports of crops and minerals.

The risks were summed up last year by Jonatban Frimpong-Ansah, a former Ghanaian central bank governor.

"Indeed there are emerging views that excessively outward trade policies by individual nations, not buttressed by viable regional economic integration, could return African countries to

a new and worse form of economic dependency and paternalistic colonialism..." he said.

He was speaking shortly before a landmark summit of the five Maghreb leaders last June which opened the way for the proposed North African union.

But the track record of African partnerships is patchy.

The East African Community, formed in 1968 by Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, broke up nine years later when the former British-ruled territories sealed borders and confiscated aircraft, locomotives, ships and lorries amid unresolved political and budget rows.

The 16-nation Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was supposed to evolve into something like the European Community. But the dream remains elusive.

"Progress has been painfully slow as year after year our target dates are set and we move from the problematic to what is in danger of becoming the unattainable," Gambian President Dawda Jawara said last June.

Regional groupings, reflecting West Africa's Balka-

nisation into small states and one giant, Nigeria, abound.

Less than five per cent of members' recorded trade is within the community. More than five years after leaders agreed to create a single monetary zone, seven countries are tied to the CFA franc. Others muddle on with unconvertible currencies.

Fourteen countries belong to a franc zone — 12 former French colonies in West and Central Africa plus Spanish-speaking equatorial Guinea and the Indian Ocean archipelago of Comoros.

Members use the same currency, the CFA franc, which is pegged to the French franc and guaranteed by the Bank of France.

Another African grouping is the 15-member Preferential Trade Area of Eastern and Southern Africa founded in 1981. It, too, has suffered slippage in a timetable for integration and the removal of all tariff barriers to regional trade by the year 2000. Twelve members missed a November deadline for a 10 per cent cut in tariffs.

Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi spoke at a summit in December of progress towards a common market from Swaziland to Ethiopia. But he noted: "We realise that a great deal more remains to be done before we can achieve our ultimate goal of eco-

nomic integration.

Yet another African regional grouping is the nine-nation Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADC).

At a recent meeting with aid donors it won praise for its successes in the eight years since it was set up to reduce members' reliance on South Africa.

But with annual per capita income varying from \$160 in Malawi to \$840 in Botswana, this bloc-like others south of the Sahara has little economic or financial weight.

Supporters of the Maghreb alliance say it will weld different but complementary economies into a union equipped to meet the challenges of the 1990s, including the creation of a single European Community market.

Libya and Algeria have oil and gas but are short of consumer goods and have neglected agriculture. Morocco has a virtual monopoly in phosphates and produces fruit and vegetables. Mauritania has iron and other minerals and rich rising grounds. Tunisia has manufacturing industry and banks.

But diplomats say much depends on how members can buy a decade of rivalry between Algeria and Morocco and between Libya and Tunisia that preceded last June's summit.

These talks were also expected to include the exchange of refined products and the setting up of joint ventures, officials said.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah said efforts by OPEC and non-OPEC states to cooperate in raising world oil prices were not discussed.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said Sunday Moscow was ready to cooperate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London, later this month, of experts from seven non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Sri Lanka forces on full alert after violence flare-up

COLOMBO (R) — Security forces on full alert for Sri Lanka's first general election since 1977 killed four rebels Monday as they fled after setting fire to a bus northwest of the capital.

Rebels ordered passengers out of two other buses before setting them ablaze near the spot where the four suspected members of the leftist People's Liberation Front (JVP) were shot dead by soldiers at Kurunegala, 90 kilometres northwest of Colombo.

Police said about 40,000 police and troops were deployed across the Indian Ocean island as the full security alert took effect Monday after four weeks of campaigning in which 13 candidates and more than 300 political activists were killed.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa's United National Party (UNP), which has ruled the is-

voters and election officials with death if they disregarded a call to boycott the poll.

"Vote and face death," one poster proclaimed.

Canvassing ended Sunday night with bomb attacks on meetings within kilometres of Colombo which injured about 30 people.

The UNP is favoured to return with a slight majority in the 225-seat parliament. Its main challenger is the Freedom Party of former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

Bandaranaike, who lost to Premadasa in the December presidential election, said continued violence meant a low turnout which would benefit the UNP.

About 9.4 million people are eligible to vote under a proportional representation system to choose from 1,393 candidates nominated by nine political par-



TAMILS — 10% of Sri Lanka's 15 million people are ethnic Tamils of Indian descent. They have language, religious and cultural links with southern India.

SLAVES — 70% of population. Over 40% are classified as low-country Sri Lankans; others are Kandyan Sinhalese.

K. P. D.

ties and some independent groups.

Tamil militants are among candidates in the north and east, though the powerful Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam also warned officials and voters to boycott the election.

UNP General Secretary Ranjan Wijeratne had had exchanges Monday with foreign observers invited to monitor the election, one of the observers said. The observer said Wijeratne accused the monitoring team of interfering in the country's internal affairs.

S. Korea farmers clash with police over U.S. pressure

SEOUL (R) — South Korean riot police fought running battles with thousands of club-wielding anti-American demonstrators trying to storm the parliament building in Seoul Monday, witnesses said.

The rioters were among more than 15,000 farmers and students who gathered outside the National Assembly to protest U.S. trade pressures, the presence of American troops on the peninsula, and President Bush's planned visit to Seoul Feb. 27.

Club-wielding rioters hurled rocks and petrol bombs. Police opened fire with volleys of tear gas.

A pitched battle raged for more than two hours during which at least five cars and a van owned by a state-run television

company were set on fire. There were no immediate reports of serious injuries or arrests.

The battle broke out as Prime Minister Kang Yong-Hoon was delivering a speech to parliament on national policies.

Kang said the government would deal toughly with "those who break laws and disrupt social stability taking advantage of democracy."

"Drive out U.S. forces" shouted demonstrators, who called on the Seoul government to spend less money on the armed forces and more on helping farmers.

They also demanded cancellation of the "team spirit" joint U.S.-South Korean manoeuvres, the largest military exercise in the non-communist world.

COLUMN

Hundreds mass to see American bird

LONDON (AP) — The appearance of a rare bird caused such excitement that police had to be called to control the crowd of thousands that came to see a small bird — the first golden-winged warbler recorded in Europe. At one stage Sungay, police with billyards had to control the crowd as the birdwatchers, equipped with binoculars, telescopes and cameras, strained for a glimpse of the warbler at Maidstone, 65 kilometres southeast of London. Some of the visitors were from Belgium and the Netherlands. Ian Mills, a British visitor, said "I've been all over the country to look at rare birds and a crowd of a few hundred is not unusual but I've never seen anything like this." "There were well over 2,000 people present when I was there and at times roads were choked with traffic could hardly move," said. "This must have been the largest gathering of bird-watchers I've ever seen," said Richard Millington, spokesman for the Birdline Telephone Information Service, whose report about the warbler drew the crowds.

Selleck In Jail for movie

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AP) — Actor Tom Selleck cheered a small group of loyal fans who braved freezing temperatures to wait for a glimpse of the star outside a jail where he is working on a film. "Hello, hello, nice to see you all," Selleck said as he leaned out the front door of Cincinnati workhouse during a break Saturday in filming "Hard Rain." Selleck plays a man sentenced to prison after being framed by corrupt police. He was wearing blue prison jeans and shirt and had a glob of purple makeup over his right eye. "I'm suppose to look like I've had a fight," he explained, before going back inside the 120-year-old prison. All filming in Cincinnati is being done inside the workhouse where a cellblock has been renovated for the movie, said Ell Pasternack, a spokeswoman for Walt Disney Productions, who is making the film.

Man lives with 100 snakes

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysian "snake king" Dastagir Husini was believed to have set a record for living with 100 snakes after spending two weeks in a pen with 100 cobras, he and National Museum officials said Tuesday. "I am fine and ready to prolong my stay with the snakes for another two or three days," Husini said next to the pen in the museum where he has been living with the snakes since Jan. 24. The national news agency Bernama reported Tuesday that he had set a world record last Thursday. Husini, 63, was given a clean bill of health by Dr. A. Ganga Daran who examined him on after he stepped out of a glass cubicle Tuesday morning. The medical examination was conducted so Husini could continue with thefeat. A snake exhibition is being held in conjunction with the demonstration and visitors to the snake show have so far paid more than 75,000 ringgit (\$27,502).

Shaw's birthplace up for sale

DUBLIN (R) — The Dublin birthplace of playwright George Bernard Shaw has been advertised for sale on the international market. The occupants of the eight-room house are asking 165,000 pounds (\$250,000), twice the price of other houses in the street. Among interested possible purchasers are the Dublin-based Shaw Birthplace Museum Trust which wants to convert the terraced house into a Shaw museum.

Detroit marks Paczki Day

DETROIT (R) — For thousands of Detroiters, Shrove Tuesday is better known as "Paczki Day." The leaden, custard or fruit-filled Polish doughnut known as Paczki (pronounced punch-key) was the treat of choice here last Tuesday. The Paczki tradition dates to Roman Catholic celebrations in Poland. The pastries are rich with eggs, sugar and other delicacies that traditionally are forsaken during Lent. Long lines formed a dawn outside bakeries in tiny Hamtramck, Michigan, a Polish enclave in Detroit where bakers had toiled for days preparing the treats.

North trial secrets deal proposed

WASHINGTON (R) — The Iran-contra special prosecutor and the Bush administration filed a motion Sunday proposing a compromise on the national security secrets that former White House aide Oliver North can use at his trial.

The motion was filed hours after Chief Justice William Rehnquist delayed the trial to give the U.S. Supreme Court time to review administration demands that tighter controls be placed on the secrets that North can introduce as evidence.

The motion must be approved by the trial judge. It essentially asks for more protections against the release of sensitive classified information at the trial, according to gov-

ernment sources who would not disclose its precise details.

Rehnquist said the trial would be delayed until further order of the Supreme Court. His action Sunday was highly unusual and reflected the sense of urgency surrounding the legal battle.

But the administration agreed to drop its Supreme Court appeal if the trial judge accepts the proposed compromise, which would allow North's trial to proceed without delay.

North, a former White House national security aide and retired marine lieutenant colonel, is the first defendant to go on trial on charges arising from the 1985-86 secret sales of arms to Iran and the diversion of profits to the Nicaraguan

contra rebels.

He has pleaded not guilty to the 12 criminal charges that include shredding secret White House documents to cover up the scandal, lying to Congress and participating in a tax fraud conspiracy to arm the contras.

The two most serious charges against North — conspiracy and theft — were dismissed when U.S. intelligence agencies refused to release secret documents needed by the prosecution.

The proposed compromise would seek to assure the U.S. intelligence community that there would be no sudden unauthorized disclosure of secrets.

However, one source close to independent special prosecutor

Lawrence Walsh told Reuters it was doubtful that trial Judge Gerhard Gesell would approve the tighter protections on the handling of secrets at the trial.

The judge has repeatedly ruled that North's constitutional right to a fair trial outweighs the fears of U.S. intelligence agencies that secrets might be exposed.

The Bush administration had asked the Supreme Court to halt the first Iran-contra trial while it appealed for the tighter controls on use of classified information.

Rehnquist's ruling was a victory for the administration in its bitter struggle with independent special prosecutor Walsh on whether the trial, which began Jan. 31, can go forward.

By 1987, the KGB, the Soviet

Gunned kill Belfast lawyer

BELFAST (R) — Two gunmen Sunday burst into the Belfast home of a prominent Catholic lawyer and shot him dead in front of his young children.

Police said the killing of Patrick Finucane had all the hallmarks of a shooting by Protestant paramilitary extremists.

In an attack condemned by both the British and Irish governments, the gunman also wounded Finucane's Protestant wife, Geraldine. She was shot in the ankle.

Finucane was recently involved in a controversial inquest that centred on allegations of a "shoot-to-kill" policy by Northern Ireland police against Irish nationalist guerrillas.

The inquest into the deaths of three suspected Irish nationalist guerrillas shot dead in 1983 was halted and then scrapped after Finucane went to the Northern Ireland high court demanding police be forced to testify.

He also succeeded in having charges dropped against a man suspected of involvement in the beating and killing last March of two British soldiers who apparently strayed into the path of an Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla's funeral.

Police said the gunman had hijacked a taxi from a Protestant area, drove to Finucane's house in north Belfast and shot him in the body and head. The taxi was later found abandoned.

Finucane, a civil rights activist for Northern Ireland's Catholic minority in the early 1970s, was the seventh person killed in the province's sectarian and political conflict this year.

demanded in Pakistan and who were killed haven't actually read the book because it isn't on sale there."

Rushdie, who was born into a Bomby Muslim family and now lives in London, has maintained that the book is a fictional parable about good and evil and was not meant to be anti-religious. Islamic fundamentalists have accused him of blasphemy for his treatment of the Prophet Muhammad. The book has been banned in South Africa, India, Pakistan and Egypt.

Protesters have mostly taken issue with a dream sequence which raises the question of humanity of a prophet named Mabound in the face of temptation.

He added: "The people who

day occurred when police clashed with protesters outside the U.S. Cultural Centre demanding the banning of the book in the United States. The government put the number of injured at 127.

Last month, Muslims in the northern England city of Bradford publicly burned a copy of the book, prompting booksellers W.H. Smith to remove their display copy.

In New York City, an attorney for Viking Penguin in the United States, Martin Garbus, said Sunday: "Viking intends to continue to publish the book. Infrastruc-

ture of the book, as far as the U.S. is concerned, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and local police have been advised. It doesn't mean there will be any such incident in the United States."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Homicide — Colombia's woe

GENEVA (R) — One person is murdered every three hours in Medellin, Colombia's second largest city, and homicide is the main cause of death among adult males in the country as a whole.

These are some of the grim statistics contained in a report on Colombia prepared for the current session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva. Commission reports are normally couched in diplomatic language and avoid terms that might be viewed as biased. But the 39-page document said the facts about Colombia were "astounding" and the country's future appeared arduous. Guerrillas, death squads, drug traffickers, common criminals and paramilitary units were responsible for 11,000 killings in 1987 in the country of 28 million people.

Concorde turns back

PARIS (AP) — A supersonic Concorde jet en route to New York returned to Paris after cracks appeared above a porthole as the plane was about halfway across the Atlantic. Air France said Monday. Air France flight 001 carrying 69 passengers was at an altitude of 18,000 metres Sunday and had just reached supersonic speed when the cracks were noticed in the first of four glass plates in one porthole, said Air France spokesman Laurent Kressman. He did not know who first noticed the crack about 90 minutes into the flight.

The pilot slowed the jet, dropped to an altitude of 10,000 metres and returned to Charles de Gaulle airport, he said. Passengers were put aboard another Concorde, but the plane was delayed and travellers on the high-tech jet arrived about nine hours after the normal trans-Atlantic Air France flight to New York.

Boesak joins strike

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African civil rights leader Allan Boesak announced Monday he was going on an indefinite hunger strike in support of 300 prisoners protesting against their detention without trial. "None of us wants to die. But if this is the road we must take to make you and your government understand the evil of your ways, we will take it," Boesak said in an open letter to Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok.

Killer: No blacks in court

PRETORIA (AP) — The former policeman charged with killing seven blacks and an Indian during a shooting rampage was warned by a magistrate Monday after asking that all blacks be removed from the courtroom. Barend Strydom, 23, had pleaded innocent to the Nov. 15 shooting spree in downtown Pretoria, in which 16 blacks were injured. Witnesses to the shootings said Strydom smiled as he fired at the victims from close range. When Strydom, dressed in khaki clothes, appeared in the courtroom, he said in Afrikaans, "Long live apartheid," and asked police to remove blacks from the room.

British talk show host David Frost.

Nixon, like Dwight Eisenhower before him, accepts no speaking fees.

"His position is that he at least as a former president feels most comfortable speaking out only on substance and only when he thinks his doing so will help the country," said John H. Taylor, the former president's administrative assistant. "There is no implied criticism of how others do it; I am just telling you how President Nixon does it."

To that, Duke political scientist Barber quipped: "Here you have the most unethical president of the 20th century who is being more ethical than the others."

Nixon's successor, Gerald Ford, and his wife received about \$1 million for their memoirs, and Ford was paid \$1

million by the national NBC television network to appear in documentaries and be available for television interviews over a five-year period.

Ford also had accepted offers to serve on the boards of a number of corporations or work as a consultant to others.

Former President Jimmy Carter received an undisclosed advance for his memoirs, "Keeping Faith," after a number of New York publishers were invited to meet with him.

Carter is also in demand as a speaker on college campuses. Memphis State University said it persuaded Carter to speak after offering him \$10,000 and free air fare to and from its southern U.S. campus.

Lyndon B. Johnson donated profits estimated at \$1.5 million from his memoirs. "The Vantage Point," to support the LBJ Library in Austin and the

LBJ School of Public Affairs, according to library archivist Claudia Anderson.

As for Reagan, the former film star was asked during his flight home to California Jan. 20 whether, with the White House behind him, he might make any more movies. He replied, "No, there is kind of a lingering feeling that would look a little bit like trying to cash in on this job that I've had."

During Senate hearings in recent years on legislation to limit ex-presidents' office allowances, concern was expressed that staff paid by the taxpayers could be used to help them write for profit.

Aides for Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan each said the former presidents are diligent about doing their own work or paying for it from their own funds.

Uneasiness surrounds ex-presidents cashing in on their fame

By W. Dale Nelson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (R) — There is ample precedent for Ronald Reagan to make millions of dollars off his memoirs, but the money-making activity of former presidents is still a sore subject with many Americans.

It was, in fact, a basis for Congress' decision more than 30 years ago to grant pensions and office allowances to former occupants of the White House.

The idea, according to a Senate committee report issued in 1986, was to "ensure that former presidents can live dignified retired lives free from the need to 'commercialise' and demean their status as elder statesmen."

Nevertheless, before and since the law was passed, past presidents have profited.

sometimes handsomely, from writing, speaking and tapping business connections.

Presidential scholars are divided on the propriety of Reagan receiving a reported advance of \$5 million for his memoirs and a book of speeches, and for signing a reported \$40,000-a-speech contract with a lecture agency.

"He should not make one dime for writing a book of what he did as president, or for speaking. That's what I think," said political scientist James David Barber of Duke University, a